

# Canvassing Board Informational Reports

August 4, 2020

Primary and Special Elections

Final Report - August 18, 2020



**Snohomish County**  
Auditor's Office

**Garth Fell, Auditor**

**Election Summary**

The August 4, 2020 Primary and Special Election featured federal, state and local offices and included bond and levy measures for the Darrington, Everett, and Lakewood School Districts.

Primaries conducted in even years have an average turnout of 37% since 2004. The turnout for the August 4, 2020 Primary was 53.76%, the largest turnout in a primary since 1964. Of the 267,409 ballots returned, 56% were returned through one of the county drop boxes. The State continues to provide return postage for ballots returned through the U.S. Postal Service.

A random batch audit of mail ballots was performed. The results of the six hand-counted batches showed a discrepancy when compared to the tabulation system count. This was due to a missed adjudication of a voter correction. As a result, after a review of adjudications by staff, a second audit of six new batches was conducted which matched exactly. In addition an audit was performed of all duplicated ballots. The audit results were reported to the Canvassing Board in a separate report.

In terms of election accountability and reconciliation, there are three less ballots tabulated than voters credited due to two empty envelope discovered at the ballot opening stage and an unresolved credit issue.



**Challenged:** Mail Ballot Envelopes or Provisional Ballot Envelopes that are not processed due to a variety of voter related issues or actions.

**Comparative Data:** Column containing data from previous years or at other points during the election that can provide perspective to the number or percentage to which it is related. Clarification of what the data represents will be listed in parenthesis or in the comments field.

**VoteWA:** Statewide election management / voter registration database.

**ClearVote:** Snohomish County's vote tabulation system.

Election Statistical Summary					
		Total	Percentage	Comparative Data	Comment
<b>Voter Registration</b>					
	Registered Voters	487,844			
	Address Confidentiality Program Voters	103			
	Overseas and Service Voters	7,577			Mil, Email, OC categories in VoteWA
	Federal Write-in Voters	0			
<b>Participation</b>					
	Voters credited	262,269			
	Ballots counted	262,266			
	Difference between voters credited and ballots counted	3			Due to two empty envelopes and one unresolved credit issue.
	Overseas and Service voters accepted	1,332	17.58%	15.54% - 2020 Pres. Primary	Mil, Email, OC, FWAB categories in VoteWA; percentage of voters credited to issued
	Overseas and Service voter envelopes rejected	29			Mil, Email, OC categories in VoteWA
<b>Mail Ballot Summary</b>					
	Mail Ballots Issued	507,558			
	Mail Ballots Returned	267,554	52.71%		percent issued that were returned
				43.79% - 2020 Pres. Primary	
	Mail Ballots Returned through AVS, drop boxes, and Auditor's Office	149,176	55.76%		percent returned through sites of all mail ballots returned
	Mail Ballots Returned through the Post Office	118,378	44.24%		percent returned through post office
	Mail Ballots Verified and Accepted	262,269	98.02%		percent returned that were verified and accepted
	Mail Ballots Open and Extracted	262,268	100.00%		percent verified and accepted that were opened and extracted
	Mail Ballots Tabulated	262,266	99.99%		percent opened and extracted that were tabulated
<b>Provisional Ballot Summary</b>					
	Provisional Ballots Issued	0			
	Provisional Ballots Verified and Accepted	0	N/A		percent issued that have been verified and accepted
	Provisional Ballots Open and Extracted	0	N/A		percent verified and accepted that have been open and extracted
	Provisional Ballots Tabulated	0	N/A		percent open and extracted that have been tabulated

Details - Mail Ballots					
Line	Description	Total	Subtotal	Comparative Data	Comment
<b>Mail Ballots Issued</b>					
1	Number of Mail Ballots Issued	<b>507,558</b>			
1a	Number of ballots issued and tracked VoteWA system		507,455		
1b	Number of ballots issued and not tracked in VoteWA system		103		Address Confidentiality Program participants
<b>Mail Ballot Envelopes Returned</b>					
2	Number of Mail Ballot Envelopes Returned	<b>267,554</b>			
2a	Number of Mail Ballot Envelopes Returned and reported in VoteWA		267,394		
2b	Number of ACP Mail Ballots Envelopes Returned		61		Manually tracked; Not reported in VoteWA
2c	Number of Unidentifiable Mail Ballot Envelopes Returned		64		Securities only / Replacements without information / Faxed; Not reported in VoteWA
2d	Number of Mail Ballot Envelopes Returned and Not Accepted by VoteWA		35		Manually tracked; Not reported in VoteWA
2e	Number of Outbound Mail Ballot Packets Returned by USPS as undeliverable	3,940		0.78%: 1.43% (2019 Primary)	Undeliverable ballots are reviewed for anomalies and voters contacted to update address information per state and federal law
<b>Mail Ballot Envelopes Verified</b>					
4	Number Mail Ballots Envelopes Verified And Accepted	<b>262,269</b>			Sum of line 4a, 4b and 4c
4a	Number of Mail Ballots Verified and Accepted in VoteWA		262,208		Reported from VoteWA
4b	Number of Mail Ballots Verified and Accepted but not in VoteWA		61		Manually tracked (includes ACP/Federal Write-ins)
4c	Number of Mail Ballots Verified and Accepted but challenge on record				2nd ballot issued also accepted due to VoteWA reporting issue
5	Number of Mail Ballot Envelopes Challenged	5,285		1.98%: 1.55% (2019 Primary)	VoteWA data reconciled with hand counts and augmented with hand counts for non-VoteWA ballots (sum of 5a - 5p). Percentages are challenged vs. total returned
5a	Deceased		6		Reported from VoteWA and reconciled with hand counts
5b	Empty Envelope		16		" "
5c	Marked Moved		8		" "
5d	Other than voter		30		" "
5e	Power of attorney		4		" "
5f	Signature does not match		1,935	0.72%: 0.17% (2019 Primary)	" "
5g	Too late		2,746	1.03%: 1.07% (2019 Primary)	" "
5h	Unsigned		441		

Details - Mail Ballots					
Line	Description	Total	Subtotal	Comparative Data	Comment
5i	Wrong Election		26		Not reported in VoteWA but hand counted
5j	Security Envelope Only / No Voter Information on Replacement / Fax Only / Informational Items		73		" "
Mail Ballot Envelopes Opened and Extracted					
6	Number of Mail Ballots Opened and Sent to Tabulation	262,268			
7	Number of Empty Envelopes	1			
8	Number of Ballots Rejected by Canvassing Board (credit not removed in VoteWA)	1			
9	Number of Additional Ballots Discovered After Signature Envelope Removal	1			
10	Number of Ballots Awaiting Counting or Canvassing Board Decision	0			
Ballots Tabulated					
11	Number of Mail Ballots Tabulated	262,266			Reported by ClearVote.
12	Number of Mail Ballots Awaiting Tabulation				

Details - Provisional Ballots					
Line	Description	Total	Subtotals	Comparative Data	Comment
Provisional Ballots Issued					
1	Number of Provisional Ballots Issued	0			
1a	Number of Provisional Ballots Issued in Snohomish County	0			
1a.1	Voter did not want to use AVU		0		
1a.2	AVU Equipment Issue (resulting in no ballot cast)		0		
1a.3	Site worker could not find or flag voter		0		
1a.4	Voter did not have proper ID to vote in person		0		
1a.5	Voter needed paper for accessibility reason		0		
1a.6	Voter not registered in our county or in election area		0		
1b	Number of Provisional Ballots Received from other counties	0			
Provisional Ballots Verified					
2	Number of Provisional Ballot Accepted	0			
3	Number of Provisional Ballots Challenged	0			
3a	Cancelled registration		0		
3b	Can't read (or no) name/address		0		
3c	Felony conviction		0		
3d	Incomplete Information		0		
3e	No signature on envelope		0		
3f	Not eligible for election (wrong district)		0		
3g	Not Registered		0		
3h	Registered too late (after cut off)		0		
3i	Signature doesn't match original		0		
3j	Voter voting twice		0		
4	Number of Provisional Ballots Sent to Other Counties	0			
Provisional Ballot Envelopes Opened and Extracted					
5	Number of Provisional Ballots Opened and Sent to Tabulation	0			
6	Number of Empty Envelopes	0			Unable to remove credit in VoteWA
7	Number of Provisional Ballots Rejected by Canvassing Board	0			Unable to remove credit in VoteWA
8	Number of Provisional Ballots Not Opened	0			
	Number of Provisional Ballots Awaiting Duplication or Canvassing Board				
9	Decision	0			
Provisional Ballots Tabulated					
10	Number of Provisional Ballots Tabulated	0			Reported from ClearVote
11	Number of Provisional Ballots Awaiting Tabulation	0			